

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.: PCT/EP03/050252
Applicant: Guido RIBI
Docket No.: KAR 008
Customer No.: 000039232

Mail Stop PCT
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

This Preliminary Amendment is submitted according to the terms of 37 CFR 1.115 and MPEP 714.01(e). Please amend the above-identified national stage application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

Amendments to the Drawings begin on page 13 of this paper, and include both attached replacement sheets and annotated sheets showing changes.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 14 of this paper.

The **Conclusion** is at page 16 of this paper.

A **Substitute Specification** and a **Marked Up Version of the Specification** are attached following page 21 of this paper.